

But I am wondering if this is...if the intent of the foundation is to transfer property that they acquire to the state on a routine basis.

SENATOR RUPP: I really wouldn't feel comfortable speaking on behalf of the foundation, but I believe that they are probably going to be selective in property that they do accept. I would guess that, you know, something like this, obviously, cries out for their acceptance, but I wouldn't think that they would just accept every little patch of ground that would come along with the hope of transferring it to the state if it doesn't have potential development as a wildlife management area, which I am sure you are not concerned with those because they have virtually nothing as far as upkeep and maintenance. But something like this, they would be derelict in their responsibilities if they didn't accept it. But I can't imagine that they are going to go out looking for areas and accept them all just because someone offers them.

SENATOR WARNER: One other question, if I may. Is the...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: Is the foundation, well, let it go for now.

SENATOR RUPP: I think, Senator Warner, we should probably get a letter of some expression of intent from the foundation to clarify some of those questions because I, again, am certainly not a spokesman for them, but I think you probably raise a valid point that we could get a letter or some sort of statement of general intent, how they intend to proceed in the future.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dierks, please.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I just would like to tell the members how important we think this is to the 40th district. Like Senator Rupp has mentioned, this is a world class find, archaeologically speaking, and has great potential, not only for the 40th district but for the state and the nation as far as archaeological digs are concerned. I feel that it would be a real plus for the 40th district and, like Senator Rupp has also mentioned, we have had many problems out there. Economically, we have had many, many difficulties and any little boost we can give our district, I think we should try and do. This gift is a rather gracious gift and I think it behooves us to accept this with the intention which it's given.